

AUTHORIZING THE COINAGE OF 50-CENT PIECES TO COMMEMORATE THE LIVES AND PERPETUATE THE IDEALS AND TEACHINGS OF BOOKER T. WASHINGTON AND GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

AUGUST 15 (legislative day, AUGUST 1), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MAYBANK, from the Committee on Banking and Currency, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 3176]

The Committee on Banking and Currency, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3176) to amend the act entitled "An act to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington," approved August 7, 1946, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

An act of August 7, 1946, authorized the issuance of 5,000,000 silver half-dollars "to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington, a great American," such coins to be standard size, weight, and fineness and of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. The act further provided that the United States should not be subject to the expense of making the models for master dies or other preparations for the authorized coinage.

The coins authorized by the act of August 7, 1946, were to be issued at par, and only upon the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Franklin County, Va. The coins were to be disposed of at par or at a premium by banks or trust companies selected by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Franklin County, Va., and all proceeds were to be used to purchase, construct, and maintain suitable memorials to the memory of Booker T. Washington, deceased, as decided upon by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Virginia. The coins were to be issued in such numbers and at such times as might be requested by the Booker

T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and upon payment to the United States of the face value of such coins. None of the coins are to be issued after the expiration of the 5-year period immediately following enactment of the act; that is, after August 7, 1951.

The Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial states that 2,300,000 of the authorized 5,000,000 coins have not been minted or placed in circulation.

H. R. 3176 provides that "in order to commemorate the lives and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver, two great Americans," there shall be coined by the Director of the Mint a number of silver 50-cent pieces equal to the number of 50-cent pieces authorized by the act of August 7, 1946, but not yet coined on the date of the enactment of H. R. 3176, plus an additional number of silver 50-cent pieces equal to the number of 50-cent pieces coined under the act of August 7, 1946, and returned to the Treasury, as provided in section 5 (b) of the bill.

H. R. 3176 would not increase the number of 50-cent pieces authorized under the act of August 7, 1946.

It would change the design of the coin hereafter issued so as to include the likenesses of both Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver.

It would authorize issuance of the coins upon the joint request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation.

It would provide that the coins shall be disposed of at par or at a premium by banks and trust companies jointly selected by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation.

It would provide that all proceeds from the distribution of the coins—

shall be used, in the manner decided upon by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, to oppose the spread of communism among Negroes in the interest of the national defense.

It would provide that none of the coins authorized shall be issued after August 7, 1954.

CHANGES IN THE LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is shown in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington", approved August 7, 1946

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, [That to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington, a great American, there shall be coined by the Director of the Mint not to exceed five million silver 50-cent pieces of standard size, weight, and fineness and of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the models for master dies or other preparations for this coinage.] That the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington", approved August 7, 1946, is amended to read as follows: "That in order to commemorate the lives and

perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver, two great Americans, there shall be coined by the Director of the Mint (1) a number of silver 50-cent pieces equal to the number of 50-cent pieces authorized by the Act of August 7, 1946 (60 Stat. 863), but not yet coined on the date of the enactment of this Act, plus (2) an additional number of silver 50-cent pieces equal to the number of 50-cent pieces coined under such Act of August 7, 1946, and returned to the Treasury in accordance with section 5 of this Act. The silver 50-cent pieces authorized by this section shall be of standard size, weight, and fineness, and of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the models for master dies or other preparations for the coinage authorized by this section, or to the expense of making any changes in design which may be necessitated by reason of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. [The coins herein authorized shall be issued at par, and only upon the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial established at his birthplace in Franklin County, Virginia.] The coins authorized by the first section of this Act shall be issued at par, and only upon the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial (established at the birthplace of Booker T. Washington in Franklin County, Virginia) and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation (established at the birthplace of George Washington Carver in Diamond, Missouri).

SEC. 3. [Such coins may be disposed of at par or at a premium by banks or trust companies selected by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Franklin County, Virginia, and all proceeds therefrom shall be used to purchase, construct, and maintain suitable memorials to the memory of Booker T. Washington, deceased, as may be decided upon by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Virginia.] The coins authorized by the first section of this Act shall be issued in such numbers, and at such times, as shall be requested by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, and upon payment to the United States of the face value of such coins, except that none of such coins shall be issued after August 7, 1954.

SEC. 4. [That all laws now in force relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking of the same; regulating and guarding the process of coinage; providing for the purchase of material, and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of the coins; for the prevention of debasement or counterfeiting; for security of the coin; or for any other purposes, whether said laws are penal or otherwise, shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage herein directed.] The coins authorized by the first section of this Act may be disposed of at par or at a premium by banks or trust companies selected by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, and all proceeds therefrom shall be used, in the manner decided upon by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, to oppose the spread of communism among Negroes in the interest of the national defense.

SEC. 5. [The coins authorized herein shall be issued in such numbers, and at such times as shall be requested by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and upon payment to the United States of the face value of such coins: *Provided*, That none of such coins shall be issued after the expiration of the five-year period immediately following the enactment of this Act.] (a) *From and after the date of the enactment of this Act, no 50-cent pieces shall be coined under the Act of August 7, 1946.*

(b) *At the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and the George Washington Carver National Monument Foundation, any of the 50-cent pieces coined under the Act of August 7, 1946, but on the date of the enactment of this Act not yet disposed of in accordance with such Act, shall be returned to or retained in the Treasury, and the Director of the Mint shall melt down such 50-cent pieces and use the resulting metal and material for the coinage of silver 50-cent pieces under the first section of this Act.*

SEC. 6. *All laws in force on the date of the enactment of this Act, whether penal or otherwise, relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking thereof, regulating and guarding the process of coinage, providing for the purchase of material and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of coins, providing for the prevention of debasement and counterfeiting and for the security of the coin, or otherwise relating to coinage, shall insofar as they are applicable, apply to the coinage authorized by this Act.*

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